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**CNI**  
CHURCH  
NEWS  
IRELAND



**HRH the Duke of York attended a service at York Minster marking the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Khohima in WW2**

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## St Michan's Church crypt to reopen to the public following vandalism



**Prayers are said outside the crypt of St Michan's during its reconsecration. L to R - the Revd Ross Styles, Archdeacon David Pierpont and Archbishop Michael Jackson.**

The crypt housing the mummies at St Michan's Church, Church Street, Dublin 7, will reopen to the public on Tuesday next, July 9, at 11am.

The crypt has been closed since it was broken into over the weekend of February 23/24 2019. During the break in the head of the 800 year old mummy known as 'The Crusader' was stolen along with another skull.

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During the break in coffins in the crypt were vandalised and other mummified remains, including those of a 400 year old nun, were desecrated. Some of the bones of The Crusader were scattered outside the coffin.

An investigation was launched by An Garda Síochána and, following information received, Gardaí from the Bridewell Station recovered both The Crusader's head and the skull on March 5.

Since then, in conjunction with the National Museum, the head of The Crusader has been undergoing restoration. It is being returned to the crypt. Nichols undertakers have generously provided new coffins and re-coffined the mummified remains. Increased security measures have been put in place at St Michan's.

The incident drew worldwide attention to the Dublin church and prompted outcry throughout Dublin city. Local people, for whom the mummies at St Michan's are particularly special, rallied to offer their support and sympathy.

Both archbishops of Dublin, Archbishop Michael Jackson and Archbishop Diarmuid Martin, visited the crypt in the wake of the break in and appealed to those responsible to examine their consciences.

President Michael D Higgins visited St Michan's on April 10. The crypt was reconsecrated by Archbishop Michael Jackson on April 11 with prayers so that those who had lain there for centuries could once again be at rest.

The crypt at St Michan's had been targeted by vandals previously in 1996.

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## Archbishop attends Government's structured dialogue meeting



Following the invitation of the Government to the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference, Archbishop Diarmuid Martin, Archbishop of Dublin and Vice-President of the Bishops' Conference, on Thursday participated in the plenary meeting of representatives of Churches, faith communities and non-confessional organisations which was held in Dublin Castle.

Archbishop Martin attended with Ms Siobhan Hanley, Head of Trócaire in Northern Ireland. The meeting was chaired by the Taoiseach, Mr Leo Varadkar TD.

Thursday's discussion was based on topics that were previously submitted by participants which, for the bishops' delegation, were: conscience, care of the marginalised, and

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support for parents who wish for a faith based education for their children.

The three-and-a-half hour meeting was structured under the following three themes: effective structured dialogue; inclusive and diverse communities; and, education.

Archbishop Martin welcomed the opportunity to discuss the role of faith in the context of modern society, as well as the broad range of views that were offered and facilitated by Thursday's gathering.

## **Dean Philip Knowles made music and created harmony**

The Funeral Service of Dean Philip Knowles took place on Thursday (July 4) in St James's Church in Castledermot. Dean Knowles, who was priest in charge of the Narraghmore Group of Parishes (Glendalough) and former Dean of Cashel, died peacefully on Tuesday July 2.

His remains were received at St Mullin's Church, Timolin, on Wednesday evening and following his funeral service in Castledermot Dean Knowles made his final journey to the Cathedral Church of St John the Baptist and St Patrick's Rock, Cashel, for the Eucharist in Thanksgiving and Remembrance. Burial took place afterwards in the adjoining churchyard.

Preaching at the Funeral Service with Holy Communion in St James's Church, Castledermot, the Archbishop of Dublin, the Most Revd Dr Michael Jackson described Dean

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**Members of CSMI and friends gathered to at Down Cathedral to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Canon Cecil Wilson's ordination**

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Knowles as a person who combined carefulness about worship with carefulness about people in a way that is the hallmark of the parish priest in the Church of Ireland tradition.

“Everywhere Philip went, he sought to make music and to create harmony. This he did by having his finger on the pulse, by keeping his ears to the ground and by seemingly knowing everybody. His ministry brought him to serve right across Ireland and everywhere he went he built up relationships and established working partnerships. His heartbeat marched in time with the heartbeat of the people he met, the people whose situation he understood and the people who, in turn, responded to him openly, warmly and graciously,” the Archbishop said.

He added: “Philip gave more than ever he took and he retained a strong and powerful sense that The Lord indeed would always provide. This stood him in very good stead when his illness struck and when he found himself in the confining and constraining circumstances of hospitals in Naas and in Tallaght, The Silverstream Residential Care Facility in Dunlavin and then in St Brigid’s Hospice in The Curragh. Being in Kildare brought Philip peacefully right back to where his father had been a rector and where he and his siblings would have grown up in earlier times. Not all circles are vicious; this was a very benign circle and one for which Philip was grateful and of which he was appreciative”.

Dean Tom Gordon preached at the service in Cashel.

Dean Knowles was educated in Trinity College Dublin and the Church of Ireland Theological College. He was ordained

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in 1977 and served as a Curate in St Paul's, Lisburn (Connor). He was incumbent of Cloonclare with Killasnett and Lurganboy (K,E and A) from 1979–87 and of Gorey from 1987–95. He served as Dean of Cashel from 1995 until his retirement in 2013. He has been serving as Priest in Charge in Narraghamore since 2016.

He is sadly missed by his sister Heather, brothers Herbert and David, sisters-in-law Anne and Jenny, nieces, nephews, good friends Con and Eileen Doyle, his fellow clergy, choir "In Cantorum", extended family, neighbours and friends.

## **Christian Aid launches emergency ebola appeal**

Christian Aid has launched the appeal as the Ebola outbreak continues to escalate, spreading disease, death and further devastation amidst ongoing armed conflict.

The epidemic in eastern DRC – the country's 10th Ebola outbreak – began in August 2018. To date it has infected more than 2,200 people and claimed more than 1,400 lives, making it the second largest in history.

The affected regions – North Kivu and Ituri – are also battling high levels of insecurity and armed conflict, which together have caused a protracted and complex humanitarian crisis that has displaced millions.

With concerns that the Ebola crisis could escalate at any moment, Christian Aid is appealing for extra funds to scale up its emergency work in high-risk parts of North Kivu.



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**People in the Democratic Republic of Congo are taking emergency precautions to contain the spread of Ebola**

## **12 million need humanitarian aid**

Christian Aid's acting country manager for the DRC, Esperant Mulumba, said:

“This is a crisis of grave proportions, and time is running out. The Ebola virus has overwhelmed our fragile health infrastructure, in a country where more than 12 million people already desperately need humanitarian aid. To make matters worse, the epidemic has hit a region blighted by instability, armed violence, widespread displacement and food shortages.

“For a range of reasons, there has been denial about the existence of Ebola among some communities, leading to widespread mistrust in the health system and resistance to health workers – even attacks, in some cases. This has made it incredibly difficult for agencies, including our own Ministry of

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## **The team which did the heavy lifting at this year's Summer Madness**

Health, to run an effective Ebola operation. All these factors have seriously undermined efforts to curb the outbreak.

“That is why the response to this epidemic cannot be limited to health work. It is critical that we work alongside communities – and through trusted local figureheads like faith leaders and traditional leaders – to combat widespread fear and distrust about the disease and its causes.”

## **Displaced people stretching host communities**

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“The Ebola virus is having an impact far beyond the medical realm, Mr Mulumba continued.

"For instance, people fleeing the outbreak are adding to the already high numbers of internally displaced populations, who need aid to survive. This displacement, as well as the epidemic itself, has interrupted agricultural activity, making food insecurity a growing concern.

“During 2018, more than 1.8 million people were newly displaced across the DRC, many of them in North Kivu. In June this year, UNHCR (the UN Refugee Agency) reported that an additional 300,000 people had been forced from their homes in the northeastern provinces of Ituri, North Kivu, and South Kivu.

"These people have staggering needs, both those displaced and the already stretched communities hosting them.

“Agencies like Christian Aid and our trusted local partners are doing what we can to slow the spread of the virus and alleviate the suffering of people whose lives are at risk. However, the need is incredibly vast: with more resources, we could do more.

"That’s why we are appealing to the public for more funds, so that we can help those caught up in this terrible situation.”

## Clean water, latrines and mental health help

Using a €282,000 grant from Irish Aid, Christian Aid’s local partner Bureau Œcuménique d’Appui au Développement (BOAD) has mounted an emergency operation in the Lubero territory of North Kivu, where people are at high risk of infection.

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This work focuses on building latrine blocks and water sources, running hygiene promotion campaigns, offering therapy to help people manage the psychological impacts of the epidemic, and engaging with communities to build trust and dispel myths about the epidemic. These are all areas highlighted by the World Health Organization as current gaps in the Ebola response.

Throughout North Kivu, Christian Aid's partners currently provide humanitarian aid to nearly 100,000 people, including those displaced by conflict, former refugees returning from neighbouring countries and vulnerable locals.

Christian Aid's partner Communauté Baptiste au Centre de l'Afrique (CBCA) is also responding in North Kivu, focusing on community engagement, including through faith leaders, as well as water and sanitation. Christian Aid has been working in DRC for several years. In addition to North Kivu, it also works in the provinces of South Kivu, Maniema, and Kasai.

## **July 06 - Today in Christian history**

**July 6, 1054:** Church legates of the Roman pope march into the church of Michael Cerularius, Patriarch of Constantinople, and place a bull on the altar, excommunicating him. So began of the Great Schism between the Catholics and the Orthodox.

**July 6, 1415:** Jan Hus, Bohemian preacher and forerunner of Protestantism, is burned as a heretic in Constance, Germany.

**July 6, 1535:** Sir Thomas More (b. 1478), who had recently resigned as Lord Chancellor of England, is executed for treason. He had sided with the pope against Henry VIII in

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the matter of the king's divorce. He was sentenced to be hanged, but Henry commuted the sentence to beheading.

## July 06 - News briefs

**+++ On the move in Raphoe** - The Archdeacon of Raphoe, Ven. David Huss, led morning worship on Day 3 of 'On the Move 19' in Stranorlar on Friday. It was worthwhile spiritual 'pick-me-up' for the teenagers who set off afterwards – on foot – to St Joseph's Community Hospital, on the edge of the town, to spruce up the hospital's Garden of Peace, which is located between the dementia unit and the residential wards.

'On the Move' is the diocese's annual youth outreach programme. This year it has been hosted, for the first time, by the Stranorlar, Meenglass and Kiltteevogue parish group and its Rector, Rev Adam Pullen.

The five-day On the Move schedule is quite full – including time for daily prayer and bible study, as well as chores in the community – but there is some 'downtime' built in, too, which allows the young people to 'wind down' before bedtime. On Saturday afternoon they'll enjoy a community fun day and a barbecue.

**+++ Carrickmacross mission team building homes in Malawi** - A mission team led by Revd Colin McConaghie, Rector of the Carrickmacross Group of Churches in Clogher Diocese and one of his parishioners, Lorna Doran, have already begun work with the charity, Habitat for Humanity, to

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build homes for orphaned families in Malawi. The 16 people of Carrickmacross Team Malawi 2019 left Dublin Airport on Sunday last and this week began their house-building programme. The team members had taken part in a Service of Celebration and Commissioning in St. Finbarr's Church, Carrickmacross on Sunday, 23 June attended by Jenny Williams, Chief Executive of Habitat for Humanity Ireland. The team members are mostly from the Carrickmacross Group of Church of Ireland Parishes of Carrickmacross, Magheracloone and Ardragh and include several members of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in the town.

**+++ US Choir in Belfast on Sunday** - the Choir of St Stephen's, Knoxville will sing at the services in Belfast Cathedral this Sunday (7th July) at Choral Eucharist service (11am) and Choral Evensong service (3.30). Everyone is welcome.

**+++ Methodist Church President's schedule** - for the week ahead:

Monday: Patron's Meeting (pm)

Tuesday-Thursday: Connexional pastoral calls

Friday-Saturday: Family time

Sunday: National Day of Commemoration Service in Dublin (pm)

After the GB Methodist Conference the President travelled home to Northern Ireland in the company of **Revd Paul Bofo, Presiding Bishop of the Methodist Church in Ghana** is an old friend of MCI. Paul is here for a week and can be contacted through Edgehill

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**+++ Clogher Institution** - The Institution of the Revd Philip Bryson as Rector of Kilskeery and Trillick will take place in Kilskeery Parish Church on Thursday 12th September at 7.30 pm. The appointment of Revd Bryson, currently Curate of Magheraculmoney Parish, Ardess, to the incumbency of the parishes of Kilskeery and Trillick was announced last month. Revd Bryson, originally from Belfast, previously worked in the areas of youth and children's work, pastoral support and community work before training for the Church of Ireland ministry. He served his deacon intern year with St. Bartholomew's in Stranmillis, Belfast before beginning his curacy with Magheraculmoney Parish, Kesh in 2016.

**+++ Food for thought -**

Running water never disappointed.

Crossing water always furthered something.

Stepping stones were stations of the soul.

Seamus Heaney

## July 06 News Links

[The Catholic church endorses trafficking awareness training for nurses](#)

Premier

The Catholic **church** endorses trafficking awareness training for nurses ... Organisation (INMO), HSE and the Royal College of Surgeons in **Ireland** ...

[St Michan's Church crypt to reopen to public for first time since theft of mummy's head](#)

[Independent.ie](http://Independent.ie)

The crypt at St Michan's **Church** on Arran Quay will reopen on Tuesday at 11am. The **Church** of **Ireland** crypt has been closed to visitors since vandals ...

[Bishop hits out at Varadkar's 'very hurtful' Dáil comments about priests sinning behind the altar](#)

[thejournal.ie](http://thejournal.ie)

He said it was "ironic" that a **church** state dialogue was being held today in Dublin Castle with representatives from different religions from across the ...

[churchnewsireland@gmail.org](mailto:churchnewsireland@gmail.org)

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## **Church call: do not force liberalised laws upon NI**

Belfast Newsletter

The Presbyterian **Church** in **Ireland** has urged MPs not to override ... Parliament must not bypass the devolved settlement in Northern **Ireland**. The Bill ...

## **Church of Ireland calls for compensation for blood contamination victims**

Premier

The **Church** and Society Commission of the **Church** of **Ireland** is calling on the ... In a world of fake **news** there's never been a greater need for quality ...

## **Orange Order in talks with UK officials over Drumcree dispute**

Irish Times

... on the Orange Order marching to and from the **Church of Ireland** church at ... "in the immediate vicinity of Portadown, and across Northern Ireland".

## **Mission is at the heart of Reverend Foster's ministry**

Impartial Reporter

Moving on from his post as minister at Irvinestown and Pettigo Methodist **churches**, Reverend Steven Foster has felt "privileged" to have spent time ...

## **Restoring, converting historic Dublin church wins Collen Construction man top Ireland award**

GCR

A project to build a seven-story steel-and-glass office complex around – and into – an historic Dublin **church**, while completely enveloping the old ...

## **Chamber Choir Ireland @ Kilkenny Arts Festival 2019**

The Journal of Music

After its sold-out, late-night concerts exploring **choral** works through the ages, Chamber **Choir Ireland** returns to the Festival with a radical new ...

## **Glenarm Festival of Voice**

The Journal of Music

St Patrick's **Church** of **Ireland**, Glenarm. FREE Admission: The Glens of Antrim Singing Explorers Finale Concert will not be ticketed, but seating will be ...

## **Priest in Charge & Chaplain**

Church Times

**Church of Ireland**, United Diocese of Cork, Cloyne and Ross ... Priest-in-Charge of the Parish of Saint Anne, Shandon, Cork and Chaplain to Saint ...

## **Rector**

Church Times

**Church of Ireland**, United Diocese of Cork, Cloyne and Ross Kinneigh Union of ... This parish, situated in an attractive area of West Cork, is now vacant ...



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**Church of England will condone gay couples for the first time, as long as they were man and wife ...**

[Telegraph.co.uk](http://Telegraph.co.uk)

The Church teaches that a marriage ceremony should only take place ... She asked: "Given that the **Church of England's** teaching about marriage is that it is ... changes gender, adding that it would never **press** any couple to divorce.

**Cardinal John Henry Newman's canonisation receives welcome from the Church he left**

Church Times

Ordained priest in the **Church of England** in 1825, he was a leader of the ... how much you are loved by England . . . by all religiously minded in England. ... The **press** officer for Opus Dei, Jack Valero, said: "He lost all his friends, but, ...

**IICSA: Canon Bursell renews plea to Parliament to render seal of confession obsolete**

Church Times

... **Church of England** by changing civil law to introduce mandatory reporting, a former diocesan chancellor, Canon Rupert Bursell QC ... This is a subject on which he has expressed views to the inquiry before (**News**, 16 March 2018).

**Anglican Catholic Future raises concerns about Methodist proposals**

Church Times

FEARS about proposals for intercommunion with the Methodist Church have ... due to be debated by the General Synod on Sunday (**News**, 14 June; Comment, ... "I could not remain in the **Church of England** if it decided to change its ...

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